SANSKRITI IAS DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

07-11-2026

First BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise

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INAUGURAL BIMSTEC MARITIME SECURITY EXERCISE

Translating Vision to Action. Shared Seas, Shared Security and Shared Prosperity. The inaugural BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise,...



Why in News

- India hosted the first-ever **BIMSTEC Maritime Security Exercise** from **30 October to 3 November 2026** in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Exercise Details

- **Host:** India; activities centred around **Sri Vijaya Puram**.
- **Theme:** *"Shared Seas, Shared Security and Shared Prosperity."*
- **Participants:** All seven BIMSTEC members - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- The exercise included a three-day **Tabletop Exercise** followed by a two-day **Harbour Phase**.
- It aims to strengthen interoperability, maritime domain awareness, information-sharing and joint responses in the Bay of Bengal.

Andaman and Nicobar Command

- Established in **2001**, it is India's **first integrated tri-service command**.
- **Headquarters:** Sri Vijaya Puram.
- It integrates the Indian Army, Navy and Air Force for maritime security, surveillance, and regional engagement.

Strategic Significance of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

- Their location near important sea lanes connecting the Indian and Pacific Oceans supports maritime surveillance, for **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** and trade and energy security.

About BIMSTEC

- **Full Form:** Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation.
- Established on **6 June 1997** through the **Bangkok Declaration**.
- **Secretariat:** Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- It comprises seven countries—five South Asian and two Southeast Asian.
- The **Sixth BIMSTEC Summit** was held in Bangkok under the theme "BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient and Open."

Rashid Khan Becomes First Bowler to Take 200 Men's T20I Wickets

India Today

Rashid Khan scripts history, becomes first bowler to take 200 T20I wickets

Rashid Khan claimed his 200th men's T20I wicket during Afghanistan's win over Zimbabwe. The landmark extended his lead atop the format's...



Why in News

- Afghanistan's **Rashid Khan** became the first bowler to take **200 wickets in men's T20 Internationals** on 29 October 2026.

Achievement and Records

- He achieved the milestone in his **120th T20I**, during the second Afghanistan–Zimbabwe T20I at **Sharjah Cricket Stadium, UAE**.
- His 200th wicket was Zimbabwe's **Tadiwanashe Marumani**.
- Leading men's T20I wicket-takers listed in the source:
  - Rashid Khan (Afghanistan): 200.
  - Adil Rashid (England): 171.
  - Ehsan Khan (Hong Kong) and Ish Sodhi (New Zealand): 165 each.
  - Tim Southee (New Zealand): 164.

About Rashid Khan

- Afghan leg-spinner and all-rounder; international debut in **2015**.
- Bowling style: Right-arm leg-break.
- In **2025**, he became the first Afghanistan bowler to take **200 ODI wickets**.

Indian Manuscripts Added to UNESCO Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Register

The Hindu

Mahabharata, Arthashastra, Rajatarangini manuscripts added to UNESCO memory regional register

Manuscripts of the epic Mahabharata, Kalhana's 12th-century historical chronicle Rajatarangini, and Kautilya's Arthashastra, a work on...



Why in News?

- Three Indian documentary heritage works - **Mahabharata, Kautilya's Arthashastra and Kalhana's Rajatarangini** - were inscribed on UNESCO's **Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register**.

Three Recognised Manuscripts

- **Mahabharata:** The birch-bark (Burjapatra) manuscript is preserved at **Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute (BORI), Pune, Maharashtra**; it represents the old Kashmiri recension and was acquired by Georg Bühler in 1875.
- **Arthashastra:** The palm-leaf manuscript is preserved at the **Oriental Research Institute, Mysuru, Karnataka**; traditionally attributed to Kautilya (Chanakya/Vishnugupta), it deals with governance, economics, taxation, diplomacy and military strategy.
- **Rajatarangini:** Written in Sanskrit by **Kalhana in the 12th century**, it is preserved at the Oriental Research Library, Sri Pratap Singh Library Complex, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, and documents Kashmir's political history.

UNESCO Memory of the World Programme

- **Launched:** 1992 by UNESCO.
- **Objective:** To preserve and improve access to significant documentary heritage.
- Documentary heritage includes manuscripts, rare books, archival records, photographs, maps, films and sound recordings.
- It promotes preservation, accessibility, public awareness and international cooperation.

Registers and Institutional Role

- **International Register:** Recognises documentary heritage of global significance.
- **Regional Register:** Recognises heritage significant to a particular geographical region.
- **National Register:** Recognises documentary heritage of national importance.
- **IGNCA (Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts):** Associated with the Ministry of Culture and played an important role in preparing the nomination dossiers for all three manuscripts.

Ministry of Railways Wins PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award 2026

DD India

Railways Ministry wins PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award for rooftop solar installations

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan on Thursday presented the PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award to the Ministry of Railways for securing the top...



Why in News?

- The **Ministry of Railways** received the **PM Surya Ghar Excellence Award 2026** for topping the category of maximum buildings solarised by Central Ministries and Departments.

Railways' Achievements

- **Buildings identified:** 15,868 railway buildings.
- **Buildings solarised:** 12,495, representing approximately **79%** of identified feasible buildings.
- **Installed Capacity:** 351 MW against a target of 424 MW.
- The Ministry aims to solarise all remaining feasible buildings by **March 2027**.

National Rooftop Solar Progress

- Across 77 Central Ministries and Departments, 39,135 buildings were identified as suitable for rooftop solar.
- Of these, 25,984 buildings have been solarised, achieving approximately **66% coverage**.

Significance of Railway Solarisation

- Rooftop solar reduces conventional electricity dependence and railway electricity expenditure.
- It promotes decentralised renewable energy generation and reduces carbon emissions.
- It strengthens energy security and supports India's clean energy transition.

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

- **Launch:** February 2024.
- **Implementing Ministry:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).
- **Objective:** Promote rooftop solar installations in residential households.
- **Target:** Cover **one crore households** through rooftop solar installations.
- Eligible households can receive the benefit of up to **300 units of free electricity per month**.
- The scheme provides Central Financial Assistance and uses a National Portal for applications, vendor selection and subsidy processing.

Other Important News of the day

Places in News

Bahamas Joins International Solar Alliance

News On AIR

Bahamas joins International Solar Alliance as 116th member

Bahamas joins International Solar Alliance as 116th member ... The Bahamas has joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as its 116th member.



Why in News?

- The **Commonwealth of The Bahamas** joined the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** as its **116th member** during the Ninth ISA Assembly in New Delhi in November 2026.

About the International Solar Alliance

- **Establishment:** Jointly launched by **India and France in 2015** during COP21 of the UNFCCC in Paris.
- **Headquarters:** Gurugram, Haryana.
- **Framework Agreement:** Entered into force on **6 December 2017**.
- It is an international intergovernmental organisation promoting global solar energy deployment.

Objectives and Functions

- Promotes affordable and reliable solar energy and mobilises investment in solar projects.
- Facilitates technology transfer, knowledge sharing and international cooperation.
- Supports solar-powered electricity access in underserved regions.
- Helps reduce dependence on fossil fuels and strengthen energy security.

India's Role

- India is a **co-founder of ISA** and supports international renewable energy cooperation.
- The alliance promotes solar deployment, particularly in developing countries and vulnerable regions.

Defence

Exercise VAJRA-SAT

www.pib.gov.in

National Exercise 'VAJRA-SAT' Concludes at Bengaluru, Strengthening India's Preparedness for Foot-and-Mouth Disease



Two-day exercise brings together 83 participants from 25 States, three Union Territories and key national institutions to strengthen...

Why in News

- The **Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD)** organised Exercise VAJRA-SAT to prepare for the possible spread of FMD serotype SAT-1 in India.

Institutional Framework

- It is a national tabletop exercise conducted under the theme **"Detect Early, Confirm Fast, Contain Together"**.
- It was organised by **DAHD** with **ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru**.
- It involved **83 participants from 25 States and 3 UTs**.
- **FMD serotype SAT-1 has not been reported in India.**

Disease Profile

- **Causative Agent:** *Aphthovirus* belonging to the **Picornaviridae** family.
- It affects **cloven-hoofed animals** such as cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats.
- **Symptoms:** Fever and blisters in the mouth, tongue, lips, teats and between hooves.
- **Transmission:** Through infected animals, contaminated feed, water, equipment and animal products.
- **Prevention:** Vaccination is the principal preventive measure.
- It causes significant livestock production losses and may cause high mortality among young animals due to **myocarditis**.

Science and Technology

'Mogging' – Collins Dictionary Word of the Year 2026

DH Deccan Herald

Mogging in the classroom yet?

When Collins Dictionary announced its Word of the Year for 2026 as 'mogging', my first expression was, "What?" I soon discovered that the...



Why in News?

- **Collins Dictionary** selected **'Mogging'** as its Word of the Year 2026, following a **210% rise in usage**.

Meaning and Origin

- **Mogging** means to outshine, outperform or overshadow someone.
- The term originated in bodybuilding culture and is believed to derive from **AMOG (Alpha Male of the Group)**.
- It emerged around 2016 as a noun and later evolved into the verb 'mog'.

Language and Digital Trends

- The term has gained popularity among **Generation Z and Generation Alpha** through social media and online conversations.
- Collins Dictionary monitors social media and other sources to analyse word frequency and usage patterns.
- **2025 Word of the Year:** 'Vibe Coding', referring to developing applications through instructions given to AI tools rather than manually writing code.

Uttar Pradesh in News

Uttar Pradesh Global Advisory Council

Swarajya

Former NITI Aayog Chief To Head UP's New Global Advisory Council Targeting $1-Trillion Economy By 2029

The Uttar Pradesh government has constituted a high-level Global Advisory Council under the State Transformation Commission,



Why in News?

- Uttar Pradesh constituted a **Global Advisory Council** under the State Transformation Commission to achieve the **$1 trillion economy target** and developed-state vision by 2047.

Composition

- **Chairperson:** Former IAS officer and former NITI Aayog CEO **Parameswaran Iyer**.
- **Vice-Chairperson:** CEO of the State Transformation Commission.

Major Focus Areas

- Strengthening **MSMEs, One District One Product (ODOP)** and agricultural exports.
- Improving infrastructure, logistics, connectivity, healthcare, education and vocational training.
- Promoting exports of agricultural, horticultural and processed food products.

Working Mechanism

- The council will hold at least **two meetings annually**, while sectoral working groups will meet quarterly.
- Its recommendations will be advisory in nature.